(e) the financial grant given to various centres of NITIE during the last three years, year-wise;

(f) whether the Government propose to step up financial assistance to NITIE during the current year;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIYA) : (a) and (b) National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai is an autonomous organisation fully funded by the Central Government. The Institute, on its own, had set up extension Centres for which the Central Govt had no financial commitments. In the past, such extension Centres at New Delhi and Muzaffarpur were closed down because of recurrent losses. During the last three years, the Institute has been running only two extension Centres, at Chennai and at Hyderabad. These Centres have been offering Executive Development Programmes as well as some Diploma/Certificate Courses in Computer applications. Despite some appreciation of these Courses by industries and other organisations as reported by the Institute, these Centres continued to run into losses over the years. During the last three years, these losses were Rs. 20.27 lakhs and Rs. 25.31 lakhs respectively in case of extension Centres at Hyderabad and Chennai. Hence the Institute has decided to close these Centres. The allocation for NITIE, Mumbai for the year 1997-98 (in the Central Government Budget) under Plan and Non-Plan is Rs. 149.00 lakhs and Rs. 345.00 lakhs respectively.

*[Translation]*

**Capability of Indian Army**

5778. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new scheme has been approved to enhance the capability of Indian army;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of J.C.Os and other non commissioned officers working on other posts who are likely to get the commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) A new scheme for grant of Commission in the Army for Personnel Below Officer Rank has been approved. Under this scheme, serving JCOs/NCOs/ORs in the age group of 30-35 years with an Army Senior School Certificate Pass (Class XI of CBSE pattern) qualification will be eligible for Commission as Special Commissioned Officers, in the rank of 2nd Lieutenant after screening through Service Selection Board (SSB) and Medical Board. These officers can earn promotion upto the rank of Colonel. They will retire at the age of 55 years.

(c) The new cadre has a ceiling of 6000 officers and a planned intake of 260 officers per annum.

*[English]*

**Panagarh Defence Airport**

5779. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow Panagarh airport for civil flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to hand over the said airport to the civil aviation department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

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12.01 Hrs.

## PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

**Annual Report and Review by Government of the working of the Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Ltd.**

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following papers

(1) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English version under sub-section(1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:–

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Limited, New Delhi for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.